

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsushi YAMAGUCHI et al

Application No.: 10/022,228



6/1A
6/10/02
M. Rubin

Filed: December 20, 2001

Docket No.: 111476

For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND EXPOSURE METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 4, 6, 7 and 11 as follows:

4. (Amended) An exposure apparatus as set forth in claim 1, which derives the range of acceleration by a process of trial and error by repeatedly detecting offset of said mask while increasing or decreasing the acceleration of the stage in steps.

6. (Amended) An exposure apparatus as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a storage device which stores the range of acceleration of said stage.

7. (Amended) An exposure apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said apparatus is further comprising a sensor which detects information relating to a capability of said stage to hold said mask and

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